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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,702	07/17/2003	Steven P. Anonsen	M61.12-0553	1519
27366	7590	10/19/2006	EXAMINER	
WESTMAN CHAMPLIN (MICROSOFT CORPORATION) SUITE 1400 900 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3319			FLEURANTIN, JEAN B	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2162	

DATE MAILED: 10/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/621,702	ANONSEN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	JEAN B. FLEURANTIN	2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 2006.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 11-17 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 11-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This is in response to Applicant(s) arguments submitted on 7/27/06.

The following is the current status of claim(s):

Claims 1 and 11-17 remain pending for examination.

Response to Applicant' Remarks

Applicant's arguments filed 7/27/06 have been fully considered but, have been found persuasive to the extent that the prior art of record does not specifically disclose the limitations "an application programming interface exposing an adhocQueryCriteria; an entityAliasList parameter having an object to specify the query of data." However, Golden discloses such limitations.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Understanding SQL" Martin Gruber - 1990, pages 80-85, 88-94 and 410-415, ("Gruber") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,484,180 issued to Lyons et al., ("Lyons") and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,263,328 issued to Goden et al. ("Golden").

As per claim 1, Gruber discloses "a computer readable medium having a tangible component with to specify a query of data in a relational database in terms of entity properties and fields" (i.e., specifying a query, inserting each row into table name; see page 413, last paragraph Syntax), "the method receiving

a plurality of parameters to specify the query" (i.e., a query specifying, inserting rows into table name; see page 413, last paragraph Syntax), comprising:

"a JoinList parameter" (i.e., join tables; see Fig. 8.1 and page 89, the entire paragraph 2 and page 415, paragraph 1, line 3);

"a selectList parameter" (see page 414, last paragraph, lines 1-2);

"a whereExpression parameter" (see page 415, paragraph 1, line 2); and

"an orderBylist parameter" (see page 415, paragraph 1, line 5). Gruber fails to explicitly disclose

However, Lyons discloses an application programming interface exposing an adhocQueryCriteria (see Lyons col. 9, lines 12-19). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Gruber by an application programming interface exposing an adhocQueryCriteria as disclosed by Lyons (see Lyons col. 8, lines 30-62 and col. 10, lines 28-31). Such a modification would allow the system of Gruber to provide a mechanism that achieves the benefits of both the relational model and the object oriented model (see Lyons col. 5, lines 11-13), therefore, improving the accuracy of the querying an object for properties. While, Gruber and Lyons fail to specifically disclose an application programming interface exposing an adhocQueryCriteria; an entityAliasList parameter having an object to specify the query of data. However, Golden discloses a system efficient execution of complex database queries, wherein an object to specify the query of data (see Golden col. 8, lines 45-67, particularly lines 56-59). Such a modification would allow the system of Gruber to improve database query system (see Golden col. 1, lines 51-52).

As per claim 11, the limitations of claim 11 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

As per claims 12 and 16, Gruber further discloses "an orderBylist parameter" (see Fig. 7.4 and page 80, paragraph 2).

As per claims 13, 15 and 17, Gruber further discloses "a joinList parameter" (i.e., join tables; see Fig. 8.1 and page 89, the entire paragraph 2 and page 415, paragraph 1, line 3).

As per claim 14, the limitations of claim 14 are rejected in the analysis of claim 1, and this claim is rejected on that basis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEAN B. FLEURANTIN whose telephone number is 571 - 272-4035. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:05 to 4:35.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 571 - 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jean Bolte Fleurantin

Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
October 11, 2006